

BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
DOCKET NO. 2002-66-C - ORDER NO. 2002-662<sup>ye</sup>  
SEPTEMBER 16, 2002

IN RE: Petition of HTC Communications, Inc. for	)	ORDER GRANTING
Arbitration of an Interconnection Agreement	)	REQUEST FOR
with Verizon South, Inc.	)	EXTENSION TO FILE
	)	INTERCONNECTION
	)	AGREEMENT

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission") on the joint request of HTC Communications, Inc. ("HTC") and Verizon South Inc. ("Verizon") for an extension of time in which to file an Interconnection Agreement following an arbitration proceeding before this Commission. For the reasons cited below, the Commission grants the request for an extension of time to file the Interconnection Agreement.

This case came before the Commission on the Petition of HTC seeking arbitration of an interconnection agreement with Verizon. By Order No. 2002-450 (dated June 12, 2002) in which this Commission addressed and ruled on the issues raised by the Parties, this Commission ordered HTC and Verizon to file an Interconnection Agreement within sixty (60) days following receipt of Order No. 2002-450. Thereafter, in Order No. 2002-482 (dated June 21, 2002), the Commission ruled on Petitions for Reconsideration filed by both HTC and Verizon.

By the joint request for an extension of time in which to file the interconnection agreement, counsel for HTC advises the Commission that Verizon has presented a proposed draft agreement to HTC and that the parties have begun discussions to ensure that the agreement conforms to the Commission's order in this matter. Both parties assert that it would be beneficial to the resolution of the case for the parties to have an additional thirty (30) days, or until September 23, 2002, by which to file the Interconnection Agreement with the Commission.

Upon consideration of this matter, the Commission can discern no prejudice by granting the parties the requested extension. Both parties agree to the requested extension, and the Commission finds, as the parties assert, that the additional time will allow the parties to ensure that the Interconnection Agreement conforms with the Commission's orders issued in this matter.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. The joint request of HTC and Verizon for an additional thirty (30) days, or until September 23, 2002, by which to file the Interconnection Agreement in this matter is granted.

2. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

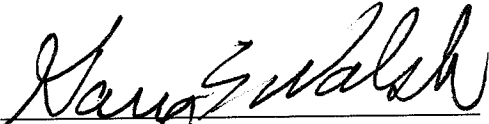
BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:



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Mignon L. Clyburn  
Chairman

ATTEST:



Gary E. Walsh  
Executive Director

(SEAL)